THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b). The Central Government maintains only state level information and do not maintain district level information However, the required information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Clearance to Power Projects

1819. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Power Ministry in dark over States Limit to clear projects" appearing in 'The Observer' New Delhi dated November 8, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether by now his Ministry had got the clear-cut directives that all power projects involving investments up to Rs. 1,000 crore would be kept out of the purview of the Central Electricity Authority from the Prime Minister's Office and apprised of the State Governments accordingly; and

(e) if not, the stage at which the matter stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Government of India has taken a decision that generation power projects set up by generating companies selected through competitive bidding and costing up to Rs. 1000 crores need not be submitted to the Central Electricity Authority for its concurrence, and the notification in this regard has been issued on 13th September, 1996. The notification was also circulated to the various State Governments.

(e) Does not arise

Hydel Power Project at Bangalore

1820. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Hydel Power Project in Bangalore;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c). Government of Karnataka proposes to set up Mekedatu hydroelectric project with an eventual capacity of 360 MW. The project is located in Mysore District, about 100 Kms from Bangalore.

[Translation]

Production and Consumption of Crude Oil

1821. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of production and consumption of crude oil, natural gas and other petroleum products in Maharashtra during the last three years;

(b) whether production of these products has increased in the State during the last three years; and

(c) if not, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to increase production of these items by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b). A Statement is attached.

(c) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Production and Consumption of Oil, Natural Gas and Petroleum Products in Maharashtra

Item	1993-94		1994-95		1995-96#		% Growth in production 1995-96 1994-95
	Production	Consumption	Production	Consumtion	Prod.	Consum-ption	Col. 6/Col. 4
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Oil	15.375	13.221@	20.226	12.740@	22.665	13.319@	12.1
Natural Gas	13.356	12.472	14.138	13.150	16.579	15.966	17.3
					408	414	392